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Media Contact:
Heather Wagner Reed
heather@juiceconsulting.com
713 208 3891



AUSTIN'S ADDERLEY SCHOOL FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS IS NOW A TEXAS NONPROFIT; ANNOUNCES NEW BOARD MEMBERS AND KICK OFF COMMUNITY EVENT FEB. 3

*The Adderley School hosts "An Afternoon with Jack Dylan Grazer,"
Teen Star of 'IT' this February*

(AUSTIN, TEXAS – Dec. 13, 2017; source: Juice Consulting) –Austin's **ADDERLEY SCHOOL for the Performing Arts** is thrilled to announce its new status as a Texas nonprofit, and soon to be 501(c)(3), **THE ADDERLEY SCHOOL**. The nonprofit will provide partial and full scholarships to underserved students from low income Austin communities and underwrite operational costs. As a nonprofit, Adderley will "level the playing field," giving all Austin children the opportunity to grow and flourish in its transformative theatre school program, regardless of their ability to pay tuition. **THE ADDERLEY SCHOOL** has been operating for the past 25 years on the West Coast and moved to Austin in 2015. In two short years the program has exploded, teaching over 200 kids annually in six locations. For more information, please see <http://theadderleyschool.org/>.

In collaboration with The Austin Film Society and other local community sponsors, **THE ADDERLEY SCHOOL** will host "**An Afternoon with Jack Dylan Grazer**" event to educate and inspire Austin youth. The event will take place at the **AFS Cinema, 6406 N. IH-35, Suite 3100** from **3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.** on **Saturday, Feb 3rd**. For ticket information, please see [here](#).

Jack Dylan Grazer, an **ADDERLEY SCHOOL** alum, is a breakout teen star of the hit **Stephen King** remake, 'IT,' the highest grossing horror film in history. Most recently Jack will star in DC Comic's superhero film 'Shazam!' (See [here](#) for more info.) Later that evening, Adderley will host "**An Evening with Jack Dylan Grazer**," an intimate gathering for interested supporters. This event will showcase Adderley's Advanced Conservatory, highlighting the significant ways in which it impacts the lives of

students and the community as a whole. Both events will incorporate opportunities to meet Jack and a silent auction fundraiser to support Adderley's nonprofit children's theatre school.

"The Adderley School was and still is one of the key factors that inspired me to become who I am today and pushed me to discover that I am capable of reaching my greatest potential within my craft," said Adderley alum, **Jack Dylan Grazer**. "I love it so much!"

"Jack grew up in our conservatory. His confidence and success are a great source of inspiration for all of our students," said **Janet Adderley, Founder**. "We are so proud of him and eternally grateful for his desire to help the next generation pursue their dreams."

"I have spent the lion's share of my career impacting the lives of countless fortunate children who could afford to pay tuition," said Janet Adderley. "As a woman of color from modest beginnings, who grew up in Texas in the late 60's at the dawn of integration, I was also one of the 'fortunate ones'. I was blessed with brilliant, dedicated parents who supported me and taught me by example to dream big dreams. They made great sacrifices to expose me to everything - theatre, ballet, music and art. Sadly, we are not all so lucky. I am determined to be a role model for those less fortunate children among us of all races who don't have the opportunities and support in life that I had. Musical Theatre changed my life. Becoming a nonprofit will allow The Adderley School to give all children in Austin the opportunity to benefit from our life changing musical theatre school program."

New board members of the THE ADDERLEY SCHOOL include: **Janet Adderley**, President, **Heather Wagner Reed**, Vice President, **Adrian Resendez ESQ**, Secretary, **Beverly Dale**, Member at Large, **Kathy Valentine**, Member at Large, **Tracy LaQuey Parker**, Member at Large, **Cheryl Sekel**, Member at Large (Parent Member) and **Alana Adderley**, Member at Large (School Member).

"I've witnessed the Adderley Method in action in Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, and now Austin," said **Beverly Dale, Adderley School Board Member**. "I've seen precious children, including members of the Boys and Girls Club of Austin, light up, break into song and dance, and, as importantly, learn the lessons of team effort and responsibility to your friends and fellow "musical makers". I believe in Janet, Alana, and their other Adderley School colleagues, and, I'm pleased to be helping bring the 501(c)(3) to fruition."

In the 2018 season, Adderley will produce *Les Miserables* at the **Zach Theatre** on **April 27 and 28**, featuring 40 gifted students ages 7 to 18 years old from all over Austin, and **A, MY NAME IS ALICE**, in collaboration with **Kathy Valentine** at **The Townsend** on **June 1 and 2**.

Janet Adderley, created THE ADDERLEY SCHOOL in 1993 in an attempt to teach her shy, young daughter how to be heard. "If I were a color, I'd be fire engine red," said Adderley, "If my daughter were a color, she'd be lavender. I created THE ADDERLEY SCHOOL to help my lavender girl find her red voice." "The training students receive at Adderley fortifies them for life - building confidence, strengthening problem solving skills, instilling the importance of teamwork, accountability to something greater than one's self, and respect for others, not to mention an amazing experience in theatre," said Janet. "The Adderley School promotes literacy and the power of the written word."

"When I was six years old, I was the Prince in Cinderella in a blue sequined vest at the Adderley School in the Palisades in California, and I've spent every single day of my life since then just madly in love with musical theater," said **Ben Platt in his Tony Award** acceptance speech for **Lead Actor in a Musical**. See [Ben Platt Acceptance Speech](#) for more.

"My life is coming full circle," said Janet. "Everything I learned about the power of theatre, I learned in Texas. My entire creative team - choreographer, conductor, orchestrator live in Austin. There are just no words to express the joy I feel coming home to share my passion and knowledge with the next

generation. Austin is an amazing place filled with the most gracious, supportive people who believe in the transformative power of music and the performing arts. I am honored to be apart of this vibrant community, to share what I've learned, to capitalize on my relationships in Hollywood bringing actors like Jack to Austin to inspire and ignite the next generation, to 'pass it on'. Together we will impact the lives of Austin youth in a lasting way."

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MEDIA NOTE:

For interviews, general inquiries or for press coverage of the Feb. 3 events, please contact the team at Juice Consulting:

Heather Wagner Reed
713 208 3891
heather@juiceconsulting.com

Madison Snelling
210 213 8934
madison@juiceconsulting.com